

Course description for Political Science

PSCI Courses (Political Science)

PSCI 2213 American National Government

A.C.T.S. Equivalent Course # PLSC 2003

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Constitutional principles, political parties and public opinion, civil rights, organization and functions of the executive, legislative, and judicial branches.

PSCI 2223 State and Local Government

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

An analysis of state and local government.

PSCI 2233 Comparative Politics

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Comparative analysis of structures, processes, and problems of selected world powers.

PSCI 2283 Research Methods in the Social Sciences (same as CJ 2283)

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

An overview of social science research methodology focusing on creating research designs, developing appropriate measures, creating testable hypotheses, and developing research skills.

PSCI 2293 Law and Society (same as CJ 2293)

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Courts, law, and the legal system; law and politics; judicial philosophy and biography.

PSCI 2353 World Politics

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

An introduction and overview of the structures and processes of the international system, looking at institutions, events, and historical trends.

PSCI 3313 Statistics for the Social Sciences (same as CJ 3313)

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2283/CJ 2153 or instructor's permission

Introduction to use and of interpretation of statistics in criminal justice and political science. Offered every Spring.

PSCI 3403 Campaigns and Elections

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Development, organization, and changing role of political parties, including nominations, elections, and voting behavior, and the impact of the mass media.

PSCI 3413 Constitutional Criminal Procedure (same as CJ 3243)

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Analysis of procedural limitations on law enforcement and in the prosecution of crimes with an emphasis on cases dealing with the fourth, fifth, sixth, and eighth amendments.

PSCI 3423 U.S. Congress

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

U.S. Congress and the committee system, executive legislative relations, U.S. Congress and the federal bureaucracy, and reform proposals.

Revised 2/24/22

PSCI 3433 Public Administration

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Trends and organization of public administration; administrative powers and responsibilities; policymaking and intergovernmental relations; and the regulatory commissions.

PSCI 3443 Middle East Politics

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Contemporary politics in the Middle East; emphasis on the political cultures, institutions, ideologies, and conflicts in the modern Middle East.

PSCI 3463 International Relations

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Modern diplomacy, alliances and treaties, power politics, and international organizations.

PSCI 3453 Arkansas Politics and Government

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Arkansas Politics and Government is an upper division elective course. The course is an analysis of political institutions of state government, the political culture of Arkansas politics, the state politics and policy of Arkansas.

PSCI 3573 Contemporary Political Ideologies

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

A study of the political patterns of today's world, explaining the instruments, functions, and theories intertwined in modern ideologies. Emphasis on the predominant theories and thinkers of democracy, communism, and the aspects of an authoritarian or totalitarian regime.

PSCI 3583 European Politics

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

This course focuses on the political structures, transitions, and political culture of the European continent. It looks at the impact of political parties, social and ethnic cleavages, security issues, and supranational organizations in a broadly defined Europe.

PSCI 3593 World Conflict and Terrorism

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisites: PSCI 2213

Study of the changing nature of international conflict and terrorism; violence in conventional and irregular warfare; state and non-state actors; ideologies and transnational terror; motivations and goals of terror groups; domestic, homegrown, and transnational terror groups.

PSCI 374V Field Study in Political Science (same as CJ 374V)

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213 or CJ 1013

A field study consisting of travel, observation, and study of different political and legal institutions and agencies. May be repeated for a maximum total of 12 hours either in political science exclusively or a maximum total of 12 hours combined with CJ 374V.

PSCI 4493 Civil Liberties and Civil Rights (same as CJ 4493)

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2293 or CJ 2293

Focuses on citizen's fundamental rights and how decisions made within the Federal Court system have affected those rights and liberties.

Revised 2/24/22

PSCI 4553 Southern Politics

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Analysis of the politics of the American South in the 20th and 21st centuries, the region's political cultures, and impact.

PSCI 4603 The American Presidency

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Powers and duties of the American Presidency, including domestic, economic, and foreign policy dimensions, growth of presidential power, and presidential personality.

PSCI 4613 Public Management (same as CJ 4383)

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Nature of bureaucratic organization and changing themes in organizational theory; fiscal and personnel policy; public unions and collective bargaining; leadership, communication, and motivation.

PSCI 462V Seminar in Political Science

Variable credit

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Selected topics with extensive readings, and class discussions. May be repeated for a total of 12 hours credit.

PSCI 4643 American Foreign Policy

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Decision making in foreign policy with emphasis on case studies.

PSCI 4663 American Constitutional Law

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Principles, practices, and basic features of constitutional law with emphasis on the role of the Supreme Court, federalism, national powers, and individual rights.

PSCI 4673 Global Studies

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Nature and analysis of contemporary global issues. Emphasis on frameworks for analyzing global problems and in-depth acquaintance with selected world issues.

PSCI 4683 Western Political Theory

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Major political thinkers and their ideas with emphasis on more recent political theories.

PSCI 4693 Developing Nations

3 credits: 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213

Governments and major problems facing nations in the lesser developed world.

PSCI 374V Field Study in Political Science (same as CJ 374V)

3 credits; 3 hours lecture

Prerequisite: PSCI 2213 or CJ 1013

A field study consisting of travel, observation, and study of different political and legal institutions and agencies. May be repeated for a maximum total of 12 hours either in political science exclusively or a maximum total of 12 hours combined with CJ 374V.

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PSCI 478V Internship

Variable credit

Supervised learning experience in a government or private agency. May be repeated for credit up to 6 hours.

PSCI 479V Independent Study in Political Science

Variable credit

Consult the Independent Study Courses subheading in the Academic Regulations section of this catalog for prerequisites and description.